FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, February 27, 2008

The Finance Committee met on Wednesday, February 27, 2008 at 10:52 a.m. in Room 105 of Hardtner Hall at McNeese State University, 550 Sale Road, Lake Charles, Louisiana. Chair Scott Brame called the meeting to order. The roll was called, and a quorum was established.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT
Scott Brame, Chair
Mary Ellen Roy, Vice Chair
Richard E. D’Aquin
Robert W. Levy
Victor T. Stelly
Harold M. Stokes
Alvin Kimble, LSU System
Deni Taylor, LCTC System
D. Wayne Parker, UL System
Reverend Samuel Tolbert, SU System

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT
W. Clinton Rasberry, Jr.

OTHER BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT
William Clifford Smith
Donna G. Klein
Pat A. Strong
Maurice C. Durbin
Ingrid T. Labat
Robert W. Levy
Roland M. Toups
Artis L. Terrell, Jr.
James Klock

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT
E. Joseph Savoie
Donald J. Vandal
Wendy C. Simoneaux

GUESTS PRESENT
Appendix
REVIEW OF TUITION AND FEE POLICY ISSUES

Mr. Donald J. Vandal, Deputy Commissioner for Finance and Administration reminded the Committee that in April and May of 2005, the Board considered and adopted a comprehensive Tuition and Fee Policy for consideration by the Legislature. Although legislation providing for the implementation of the policy was considered and approved by the House Education Committee, the legislation did not advance beyond the full House of Representatives. In late summer of 2005, the hurricane disasters occurred and further consideration of the tuition policy was deferred. Mr. Vandal said that since over two years have elapsed since the Board has acted on the policy, it is appropriate to renew consideration of the policy. Mr. Vandal reviewed the policy with the Committee and presented updates of data and projections used in the policy as well as issues related to its consideration.

CONSIDERATION OF REVISION TO REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES FOR PAYMENT TO INDEPENDENT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR EDUCATING LOUISIANA RESIDENTS (R.S. 17:2053, ET SEQ.)

Mr. Vandal then explained that in March 2007, the Board revised the regulations and procedures for payment under the Aid to Independent Institutions program required by R.S. 17:2053, et seq. He noted that since that time it was recognized that the regulations and procedures adopted did not provide for a definition and subsequent classification of Louisiana residents pursuing post-baccalaureate certification at an independent institution. The staff proposed that the Regulations and Procedures be further revised to include a definition and classification for Post Baccalaureate as reflected in Appendix B. After some discussion, the Finance Committee took the following action:

On motion of Regent Levy, seconded by Regent Roy, the Finance Committee voted to unanimously recommend the Board approve the revision to the Regulations and Procedures for Payment to Independent Institutions of Higher Education for
Education Louisiana Residents (R.S. 17:2053, et. seq.) as reflected in Appendix B.

REPORT FROM DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

Mr. Vandal informed the Committee that the Governor’s Executive Budget would be presented to the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget on Friday, February 29, 2008. He also informed the Committee that there would be a presentation by ECG at the March Meeting of the Louisiana State University Board of Supervisors and a presentation at the April Meeting of the Board of Regents on the results of the Health Science Center Funds Flow Project.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the Finance Committee adjourned at 11:45 a.m.